

have volunteered, or been drafted, there will be no chance for me to raise a company, and I must either go in, in my same position, or else in the ranks. If I remain detached from my Company, they will not re-elect me, for some of them even now complain of my having left the Company.

We intend to re-enlist as many of our Company for 3 years as we can, and I think that before our three years is out, I will have a plenty of chances to rise.

I cannot raise a Company, and therefore, I think I had better make sure of my position as 2nd. Lieut., for I have no desire to go into the ranks again.

There is nothing new.

. . . . .

*From Robert D. Graham to Mrs. Joseph Graham*      UNC

Goldsboro',

March 14th., 1862.

Dear Sister,

New Bern has fallen. The enemy attacked our right, which was composed of the militia, who of course, ran. The panic exceeded Bull Run. No man from Orange was hurt in any way. Col. Campbell<sup>33</sup> was *not* killed, and is well spoken of, by all accounts. Col. Vance, with a good many of his men, were captured.<sup>34</sup> The most of the horses of Brem's Battery were killed at the first fire, and a few of his men. General Gatlin is sick abed, and could not go. Say to Mrs. Manly<sup>35</sup> for Alex. Kirkland<sup>36</sup> that the Judge is safe at Kinston, and the ladies are in the Hotel here. Our troops have fallen back to Kinston, to make a stand there, perhaps the fight will be in a day or two, maybe a month. Brother Joe, Johnnie, Whitehead and Alex Kirkland and myself are all in the room

<sup>33</sup> Colonel Reuben P. Campbell, of the Seventh North Carolina Regiment, (1818-1862) was killed on June 27, 1862, at Gaines's Mill. George W. Cullum, *Biographical Register of the Officers and Graduates of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., From Its Establishment, in 1802, to 1890, With the Early History of the United States Military Academy* (New York: Houghton, Mifflin and Company, Third Edition Revised and Extended, 3 volumes, 1891), II, 50, hereinafter cited as Cullum, *Biographical Register of the Military Academy*.

<sup>34</sup> This was an error; Vance was not captured.

<sup>35</sup> Mrs. Matthias Manly.

<sup>36</sup> Alexander M. Kirkland, of Orange County, was an artillery officer. He resigned in April, 1864. Manarin, *North Carolina Troops*, I, 585; Clark, *Histories of the North Carolina Regiments*, IV, 353.